

REMARKS

I. Introduction

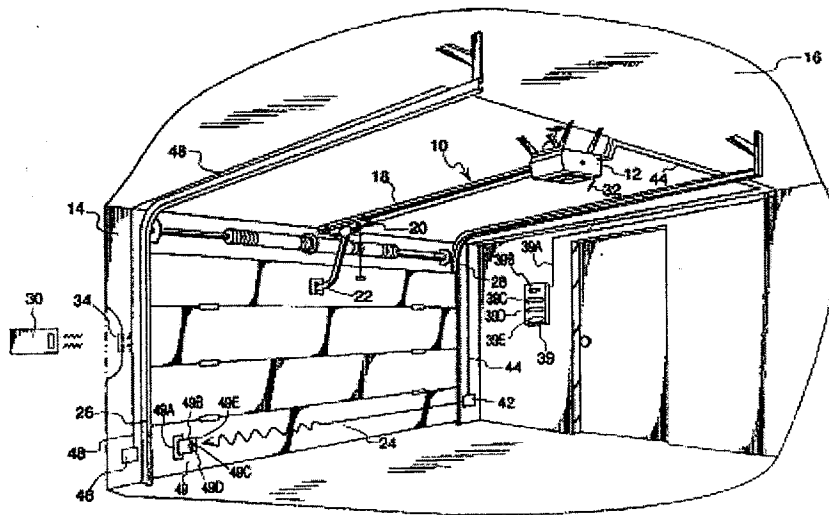
Claims 1-42 are pending. With this amendment, claims 1, 30, 37, 38, and 40 have been amended. Claims 1, 30, 37, 38, and 40 are the only independent claims.

II. The Rejections

Claims 1-42 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,097,166 to Fitzgibbon or U.S. Patent No. 6,107,765 to Fitzgibbon or U.S. Patent No. 6,111,374 to Fitzgibbon. These rejections are traversed for the reasons described below.

III. The §102 Rejections are Traversed

The Fitzgibbon '765 patent describes a moveable barrier operator that includes a learn mode where a door is caused to cycle from an open position to a closed position and vice versa. For example, as shown in FIG. 1 of Fitzgibbon '765 (reproduced below for the convenience of the Examiner), a garage door opener 10 moves a door 24. A force set point is stored in memory and set to a relatively low value. As the door travels, it may bind or jam in its tracks. If the door 24 reaches such a "binding position," the set point will be changed to an increased value to enable the door 24 to travel through the binding area. See Fitzgibbon '765 patent, col. 2, lines 31-50. The Fitzgibbon '765 also mentions that potentiometers can be used to set maximum force that is applied to the door 24 by the motor. See Fitzgibbon, col. 1, lines 60-65. However, in the Fitzgibbon system, the calculated force values used to overcome binding positions are not related or associated to a mechanical setting of any user interface. The Fitzgibbon '166 patent and the Fitzgibbon '373 patent describe similar arrangements. See Fitzgibbon '166 patent, col. 2, lines 35-45, and Fitzgibbon '373 patent, col. 2, lines 35-45.



None of the cited Fitzgibbon references teaches or suggests assigning a specific force control value to a specific physical position of the physical user interface and that this position is within the physical setting range for the physical user interface as recited in claim 1. To the contrary, the Fitzgibbon references only describe calculating new force values (to overcome binding of the door) for a binding location (i.e., a location of the door in its path). Nothing in the cited Fitzgibbon references teaches or suggests assigning or associating the new force values to a *physical position of a manually changeable user interface* as recited in claim 1.

Consequently, since at least one element of claim 1 is not taught or suggested by the cited art, it is submitted that claim 1 is not anticipated by any of the cited references. Claims 30, 37, 38, and 40 have been amended in a manner similar to claim 1 and it is submitted that these claims are allowable for the same reasons as claim 1. The remaining claims depend directly or indirectly upon the independent claims. Since the independent claims are not anticipated by any of the references, it is submitted that the dependent claims are also not anticipated by any of the references.

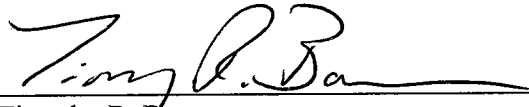
Application No. 09/997,892
Reply to Office Action of November 28, 2007

Docket No.:5569-72312

IV. Conclusion

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required in this application to Deposit Account No. 06-1135.

Respectfully submitted,

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